



## Oregon Speaker Kotek Indicates At Town Hall Meeting That She's On Board The Coal Train - Constituents Shocked

Richard Ellmyer

to:

Interested Parties

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To: Interested Parties <interested@macsolve.com>,

At a public Town Hall meeting in Northeast Portland Feb. 2nd, **Oregon Speaker of the House Tina Kotek** gave a rhetorical middle finger to her constituents in North Portland by indicating quite clearly that she is **NOT interested in stopping coal trains through her district** nor in *any of the dangers that Oregon, Washington and the planet would suffer* from shipping massive amounts of coal through the Pacific Northwest destined to be burned in China.

President Barack Obama, the World Bank, the Pentagon and countless other major players in world affairs are *very concerned* about the affects of Climate Change, which are *significantly exacerbated by burning coal*. Tina Kotek (D), Rush Limbaugh and the Republican Party are not concerned or even interested.

Kotek used the standard device of many congressional Republicans who try to stop legislation by saying *it may not be constitutional so we can't do anything*. Kotek set herself up as both a Constitutional Scholar and a Psychic who can divine the thoughts of a majority of Supreme Court Justices with regard to how they would rule on all matters related to coal and the constitution. This is a politician to be watched. Who knew?

Kotek was certainly referring to our *hallowed* constitution which sanctioned slavery, did not give women the right to vote, and, for a time, prohibited the sale of alcohol. Apparently Tina Kotek was out sick on the days her school was teaching about the civil war and Oregon's greatest citizen activist, Abigail Scott Duniway. Tina also seems to have missed one of award winning filmmaker Ken Burns' best Public Television programs, *Prohibition*. Like most everything else, laws have a useful life and then they need to be upgraded, repealed or replaced. The Constitution of the United States of America is NOT a sacred document. It is old, worn and in need of *constant revision and reinterpretation*.

**Lawmakers that use their view of potential unconstitutionality of legislation as an excuse for non-action have *hidden agendas*.**

The Supreme Court, the *only arbiter* of constitutionality, *denied the rights of human freedom* aka slavery and *established the freedom of non-humans* aka corporations to buy America's democratic process for their own economic gain while keeping their identities secret. They also have the added advantage of all ghosts, that of being invisible, so they cannot be put in jail as humans can. **That which may be constitutional now is *not necessarily wise, moral or right*** today or sometime in the future. A change in the public winds, concerns about one's judicial legacy or a replacement of only one member of the court can, has and will change everything. Trying to guess what laws will or will not be constitutional by the time they are reviewed by the Supreme Court and whether the citizenry will stand for the court's ruling is a fools errand.

Kotek's blithe dismissal of her constituents in favor of her lobbyist patrons displayed a professionally obfuscatory politician. She has learned her craft all too well.

In contrast, Kotek's cohost and partner in obeisance to their public and private sector union lobbyist financial benefactors, state senator Chip Shields, proved to be a *petulant amateur* elected official during their joint town hall political theater performance. Shields broke a cardinal rule of public town hall meetings. The host shall *not* use his or her position as controller of the microphone to personally insult

or attack any citizen by name who comes to testify because the host doesn't like them or their ideas. Shields, being publicly caught in a lie, only added to his display of *juvenile petty vindictiveness* which the audience found most *unappealing*, some said *appalling*. Unless his handlers give him new instructions don't count on Chip Shields to do anything to advance a NO Coal agenda.

Coming very soon, the NO Coal BILL from the North Portland Coal Committee that North Portland state representative and Oregon Speaker of the House Tina Kotek and state senator Chip Shields *refused* to discuss.

Richard Ellmyer

Certified *Oregon Change Agent* by governor John Kitzhaber  
Chair, North Portland Coal Committee

<http://www.goodgrowthnw.org>

<http://www.facebook.com/northportlandcoalcommittee>

Northwest citizens express their NO Coal views. Click to start each video.

[Portland NO Coal Demonstration August 18, 2012](#)

[Columbia Riverkeepers NO Coal Northwest](#)

Eric de Place on Coal

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mLz0Bf78qE8&feature=youtu.be>

Bonnie Meltzer on Coal

<http://earthfix.opb.org/multimedia/video/portland-activist-uses-her-art-to-protest-coal-exp/>

Greenpeace, The Coal Conspiracy

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=Txf5\\_vYJuzw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=Txf5_vYJuzw)

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In the twelve years that I have been writing and publishing these commentaries about our community better than 99.5% of those receiving my "Interested Parties" emails are, in fact, interested. The numbers range from a handful to many thousands depending on the issue of the day.

The *Controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography and Marketing Act of 2003* also known as the *CAN-SPAM Act of 2003* specifically exempts **political speech**. It was authored by senator Ron Wyden. A call to his staff will clarify this legislation. Over the last nine years only a *handful* of the most egregious **commercial** violators have successfully been tried and convicted. The law did not work as many of us who helped develop it had hoped. Spam, as defined in this act, is an international problem which requires an international solution. Signed emails with true headers whose content is related to government and politics that the receiver considers "bothersome" are not spam.